



Dec 75-1780

29 July 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT: Conversation with Searle Field

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1. In a conversation with Searle Field this morning I told him that we had received their security procedures and regulations and while we didn't have any problem with the materials as such it would be extremely helpful if he would assist us in allaying fears by simply allowing [] to have an inspection tour of the facilities. Field said he would be happy to do this on an informal basis. He then got nervous and wondered if he should secure Pike's permission. He ended up concluding that he had the authority for such an informal walk-through and would set something up with [] as soon as he heard from him. I asked [] to call Field and arrange to get down there as promptly as possible.

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2. I told Field we had received the Chairman's letter and that it sounded better orally than in writing. Field said the Chairman was anxious to hear of our response since he took some pride in the letter. In furtherance of yesterday's conversation, Field had discussed the bottom line position with Pike and indicated that the following language had been informally checked out with the Chairman:

"This is to certify that the following staff employees of the House Select Committee have undergone security clearances and are accordingly designated to have access to all categories of information, with the appropriate security briefings."

3. We talked about the possibility of such a letter also forwarding the employment agreements for each of the designated people. Field said that this was feasible.

4. I told Field that we were anxious to determine whether House Rule XI 2 (e)(2) was over ruled by Section 6 of House Resolution 591. Field said that we might want to get a Parliamentarian's ruling but we both agreed it was playing craps with too important an issue since it could trigger a complete reversal at this time. He assured me that no documents would be automatically turned over to a House Member not belonging to the House Select Committee in the first instance. In other words we would be put on notice if such a request were made and theoretically have an opportunity to muster our forces. Field felt that our inquiry was a legitimate one but he unfortunately did not have any long-range solution.

STATINTL

- 5 -

Special Counsel to the Director

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